

Magnuson Park Advisory Committee Minutes  
Building 30 Officers Club  
January 8, 2014 from 6 – 7:30 PM

Attending: MPAC Members: Julianna Ross (Chair), Ed Bronsdon (Vice-Chair), Peter Zimmerman, Gail Chiarello, Morgan Collins, Rusty Williams, Tom Kelly, Aaron Hoard, Herb Curl, Loren Hill. Absent: Diana Kincaid, Nancy Bolin, Colby Bradley,. Parks staff: Cheryl Fraser, Brian Judd. Guests: Colleen McAleer, Peggy Printz, Elizabeth Kiker (Cascade Bicycle Club), John Wick (Mountaineers)

Chair Julianna Ross called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Announcements from the Chair:

- Parks Development Open House, January 21, 5-7PM.
- The Mountaineers representative alerted MPAC to continuing problems with the road in front of the Mountaineers building, including problems with lines of sight, and increased traffic to Building 11.

Approval of the December Minutes. The December 2013 Minutes were approved.

Public Comment: None

Director's Report (Cheryl Fraser):

*NOAA Road:* Senator Maria Cantwell's aide has been attending meetings between NOAA and the Parks Department, along with NOAA's DC administrator; this is proving helpful in keeping things moving. NOAA is seeking "buy-in" from its workforce. It wants the Parks Department to fund significant improvements, in the amount of \$400K, including widening the road at the security gate, providing a left-hand turn lane and some stop signs, and a 3-4" "Jersey wall." Parks will present a counter-proposal to do much of the work itself, at a lower cost to the City, or about \$100K. There will be a meeting in February in which Parks presents to the NOAA authorities. Ed Bronsdon wanted Outdoors 4 All to be present at this meeting. Some wondered if Magnuson's athletic clubs could offer NOAA staff memberships at a discount as a way of welcoming NOAA staff into the Magnuson community. Loren Hill asked if the security gate would be open 24/7; Cheryl Fraser said probably not.

*MPAC Operating Procedures.* MPAC was established in 2010 and it seems time now to review the original operating procedures and to clarify who is on the committee. Cheryl asked for an MPAC volunteer to assist her in his review; Gail Chiarello volunteered.

Cheryl also mentioned the upcoming Parks Legacy Committee meetings.

Manager's Report (Brian Judd)

*Building 2:* The roof will be repaired, the HVAC updated, and an ADA bathroom added. The timetable for this work is April-July 2014.

*Building 11:* The architects for the Sail Sand Point space did a walk-through on Monday. Carson Jones (?) Roll-up doors (?)

*Parks Electrical System:* The upgrade to the electrical system is continuing with infrastructure work for portions of the park served by the old 4kV electrical system being converted to 26kV. Completion date for this portion of the work is expected to be in April. . Andy Sheffer is temporarily based in a trailer by Building 11.

*Radiation in the North Shore Recreation Area.* Cheryl Fraser reported that Parks holds weekly conference calls with the Navy and with Washington State's Department of Ecology. The Waldorf School and Cascade Bicycle paid for an independent assessment of the radiation hazard, and the outside consultant found only minimal amounts of radioactivity near Building 11, at a level so low that it does not even require labeling when it is removed. The Navy will schedule another public meeting, probably in February.

*Building 18:* The roof has been stabilized and a fan installed to control for humidity. Walls and doors are covered. The idea of using art work for covering and securing the windows after construction being considered. Project work should be completed by late April or June. The owls are nesting in nearby trees. Tom Kelly asked if the owls would be allowed to return after construction. He said that Magnuson Habitat Committee members were working on plans for a nesting box or other owl habitat to be in the tower after construction and that project and architectural team doing the building stabilization had indicated it was unlikely any other use would be practical in the future. Ed Bronsdon said that in the long run Outdoors would like develop Building 18 as its headquarters and use the hose tower as a climbing wall.

*City Light cable replacement.* City Light is temporarily renting space just north of NE 65th St. and in the vicinity of Building 308 for use as a staging area for underground residential distribution system cable replacement work in neighborhoods outside the park including Aviation Heights.

*Other news:* The annual conference of the Washington Parks & Recreation Association, a statewide group, will be held April 8-11, 2014. Attendance is estimated at 500. The Tuesday program will include the Parks tenants. The Navy Color Guard is requested to participate in Opening Day Ceremonies; it was suggested that Parks approach Captain Ron Miller.

Ed Bronsdon proposed kudos to the Parks Department for getting Sports Field Drive up and running.

The Circulation/Walking Subcommittee (Loren Hill, Chair). Loren reported the committee had met at 5:00PM and was attended by himself and Tom Kelly. At the moment the subcommittee is in a fact-finding mode. Loren sees two forces at work—one is a force for a Magnuson Park vision, and the other is a force for a community vision. The committee will be trying to develop a Scope of Work.

Rusty Williams pointed out that a circulation plan already existed and had been presented at the September 28, 2011 MPAC meeting by Kevin Bergsrud, doing a Power Point presentation.

Morgan Collins suggested any pedestrian/walking/circulation plan include the North Shore Recreation Area, which is currently isolated because of the hazards for pedestrians of walking through the NOAA underpass to get to the North Shore. He also requested way-

finding to the north end of the park and expressed concern that shortly there would be 500-5000 bicycles at the north end, competing with trucks, vans and construction vehicles. He thought the 4-way stop was problematic [people don't stop]. Rusty Williams commented that the roads in the park were technically City streets and had built-in speed bumps in the form of tree roots. Peter Zimmerman requested the NOAA Road be included in the Circulation Plan.

Loren commented that the new Tennis Center parking lot edge is a good example of a needed vision. The new sidewalk lacks connectivity to other adjacent places. Another example is the 5K event which should happen without shutting down the rest of the park in regards to circulation. Loren said he'd found a past MPAC document relating to a meeting on circulation and asked if anyone recalled it. Tom Kelly said he thought it was a meeting run by a Parks Department facilitator where people divided into subgroups and also put colored dots indicating priorities on maps. This appeared to be the same meeting Rusty recalled. NOTE: Records of a September 11, 2011 Circulation Plan meeting have been located.

Elizabeth Kiker of Cascade Bicycle asked if the pedestrian trail would accommodate bicyclists and asked to join the Subcommittee. Loren Hill welcomed her; the next meeting would be Wednesday February 12th at 5PM immediately preceding MPAC.

Loren Hill described Paris's Parque Violette where giant sculptures are used as a way to mark a major pedestrian circulation through a park. Rusty Williams suggested a large physical map of the park be hung in the Building 30 conference room. Cheryl Fraser offered to locate a large physical map of Magnuson for the Building 30 conference room. Loren Hill has a Year 2000 Aerial Photograph of the park which he will donate for the use of the group.

Julianna Ross described the artists' Studio Warming planned for Sunday, January 19th 2:00-5:00PM at Building 30. Tom Kelly offered praise to Cheryl Fraser, BJ [?], and Isabel Hamilton for the artwork already hung in Building 30. Peter Zimmerman liked the new "buzz" and feeling of life around Building 30; lights are on at night. Ed Bronsdon commented on the RC Racers, a radio-controlled car club event using the Building 30 hanger this very evening.

Buildings 141/142 (Building 25) (Aaron Hoard): It will cost \$800K to demolish these two buildings, so the University has added the demolition to its FY2015 budget.

It was announced that Jean Godden chairs City Council's Parks, Library & Gender Equality Committee. Other committee members are Tom Rasmussen and Bruce Harrell.

Business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned ~7:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Chiarello